



**THE LEGISLATURE
State of Hawaii**

NEWS RELEASE
May 5, 2006

**Contact: Rep. Dwight Takamine
T. (808) 586-6200**

**LEGISLATIVE FUNDING MORE THAN DOUBLES FOR BIG
ISLAND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

Honolulu. At the close of the 2006 legislative session, the state budget bill, House Bill 1900, includes a large increase in funding for Big Island capital improvement projects. The Big Island will receive more than \$408 million in capital improvement project funding from the state legislature for the 2006-2007 biennium. This is more than double the amount from the previous biennium, which totaled approximately \$175 million.

"The legislative Big Island team was extremely successful in securing capital improvement funding for community projects," said Rep. Dwight Takamine (District 1 – North Kohala, South Kohala, Hamakua, North Hilo, South Hilo), Chair of Finance. "We will now be able to address many of our infrastructure needs, including fixing our schools and making our roads safer. These construction projects will also create new jobs and be a positive impact for our island economy."

All areas of the island of Hawaii will receive significant improvements addressing a variety of Big Island issues.

"Our Big Island community benefited significantly with three key resource management projects," said Senator Russell Kokubun (District 2 – Waiakea Uka, Kalapana, Volcano, Kahuku). "They are: 1)\$1 million for the purchase of Honuapo Pond; 2)\$2.3 million to plug and abandon the geothermal wells in Wao Kele O Puna; and 3)\$150,000 for a study to develop a wastewater treatment facility for Kapoho including public restrooms for Wai Opae conservation district."

"The funding for development of a water well and distribution system for Hawaiian Ocean View Estates in Kahuku will solve a long-standing problem for this district," said Rep. Bob Herkes. "There is \$5 million for a new 6-classroom building for Naalehu School, and the Department of Transportation has assured me that they will correct the flooding problem at Kawa flats."

(more)

"Some of the funding, although not in my district, will benefit many of our people that have to commute from Ka'u and South Kona to jobs in North Hawaii," added Rep. Herkes (District 5 – Puna, Ka'u, South Kona, North Kona). "The funds for improvements to Queen Kaahumanu Highway will help us all. Also, there is funding to correct the bottlenecks at the intersection of Volcano highway and Kulani Road. There are also funds to correct the traffic congestion by Kamehameha School in Keaau."

"Kona will be receiving over \$40 million for the Queen Kaahumanu expansion, critical mauka-makai road connectors, and road safety as a result of our teamwork these past two years," continued Rep. Josh Green, M.D. (District 6 – Kailua-Kona, Keauhou, Honokohau). "Overall, West Hawaii is receiving just about ten times more money for critical infrastructure than it did in previous legislative sessions. I am really happy with this result."

In addition to infrastructure, Big Island CIP projects will also stimulate economic development activities such as the Natural Energy Laboratory in West Hawaii.

"The legislature continues to move NELHA towards self-sufficiency," said Rep. Cindy Evans (District 7 – North Kona, South Kohala). "This year's investment in infrastructure will help them grow and ultimately increase revenues."

Education and funding the backlog of school repair and maintenance projects were a major focus for the legislature this session.

"Many of the projects funded for the Hilo area relate to education, health, and the safety concerns of the community," said Rep. Jerry Chang (District 2 – Hilo).

"UH Hilo faired very well in this year's budget," continued Rep. Chang. "In comparison UH Manoa received \$6,161,013.00, while UH Hilo received \$5,199,553.00 in new dollars for new positions and operational funds."

"Half of the state's surplus will go towards education and fixing our schools," said Rep. Clift Tsuji. "I believe this is a wise investment in our future, and this year many of our Big Island schools will receive much needed funds for new buildings as well as for repair and maintenance. A clean and safe learning environment is one of the most important ways we can help our children."

"I am thrilled that the Pahoa gymnasium received \$3,650,000 in 2006 and \$3,750,000 in 2007," said Rep. Helene Hale. "As this is my last year in office, it is very especially gratifying to me that the legislature voted to support this project which will make a big difference in the lives of the kids at Pahoa."

(more)

Capital Improvement Appropriations for the Island of Hawaii

Fiscal Year 2006

Akoni Pule Highway	250,000
Bay Clinic Inc.	1,000,000
Boys and Girls of the Big Island, Facility Renovations	200,000
Daughters of Hawaii, Renovations to Hulihee Palace	50,000
Guardrail and shoulder improvements on state highways	1,500,000
Hamakua Ditch improvements	4,000,000
HAW, New Komohana campus	6,950,000
Hawaii Belt Road rockfall protection	10,000,000
Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council Equipment	600,000
Hawaii Health Systems Foundation	18,228,000
Hawaiian Ocean View Estates, exploratory well	6,000,000
Hilo Harbor improvements	1,200,000
Holualoa Elementary School telecom upgrades	300,000
Honuapo Estuary land acquisition	1,000,000
Kawaihae Harbor improvements	2,700,000
Keeau Middle School, 8-classroom building	645,000
Kealakeha Parkway extension	500,000
Keaukaha Joint Military Center	100,000
Kohala Library	6,361,000
Kona International perimeter road, security fence	3,322,000
Kona International terminal modifications	1,000,000
Kuakini Highway, roadway and drainage improvements	1,300,000
Makuu Farmers Market, highway access improvements	650,000
Naalehu Elementary and Intermediate 6-classroom bldg.	5,000,000
Navigational Improvements Hilo Harbor	700,000
Navigational Improvements Kawaihae Harbor	200,000
Pahoa High and Intermediate new gymnasium	3,650,000
Saddle Road improvements	30,000,000
Traffic operational improvements	1,100,000
UHH Hawaiian Language Building	2,000,000
UHH traffic light improvements	600,000
UHH Science and Technology Building	20,000,000
Volcano Road intersection improvements at Kulani	450,000
Volcano Road widening, Keeau to Paahana	500,000

(more)

Fiscal Year 2006 cont.

Waiakea Elementary A/C Library	120,000
Waimea and Hilo baseyards improvements	200,000
Waimea Irrigation System improvements	350,000
Waimea-Kohala Airport, Part 139 improvements	715,000

FISCAL YEAR 2006 TOTAL	133,441,000
-------------------------------	--------------------

Fiscal Year 2007

Ane Keohokalole highway improvements	6,000,000
Arc of Hilo, Client Support Services Community Center	200,000
Barge Terminal Improvements Hilo Harbor	45,000,000
Geothermal Well plugging and abandonment	2,300,000
Guardrail and shoulder improvements	1,500,000
Hapuna Beach state recreation area	1,250,000
HAW New Komohana Campus	11,257,000
Hawaii Community Correctional Center	200,000
Hawaii Health Systems Foundation	5,000,000
Hawaii Labor Heritage Council Jack Hall Memorial	286,000
Hilo High School new gymnasium	7,000,000
Hilo International Airport reconstruct T-hangars	1,250,000
Hilo Medical Center Emergency Room	2,500,000
Honokaa baseyard improvements	800,000
Honokaa High and Intermediate new bathrooms	335,000
Honokaa High and Intermediate Armory improvements	1,250,000
Honokaa Well development	1,985,000
Kahale Kahaluu modernization	1,500,000
Kahuku Skatepark	87,000
Kawaihae Road Bypass, Waimea to Kawaihae	2,500,000
Kawaihae Road Waiaka stream bridge replacement	5,590,000
Keaau Elementary School	500,000
Keeau Middle School	10,185,000
Keaau-Pahoa Road shoulder land conversion	6,600,000
Kealakehe Admin/Library Building	2,000,000
Keaukaha Joint Military Center	4,300,000
Kona International terminal modifications	3,000,000
Lanakila Homes Phase IIA and IIB	2,200,000

(more)

Fiscal Year 2007 cont.

Lanakila Homes Phase IIIA	2,450,000
Laupahoehoe Boat Ramp improvements	250,000
Laupahoehoe Pool improvements	1,000,000
NELHA/Host Park infrastructure upgrades	50,000
NELHA Master Plan reconfiguration	300,000
NELHA Onshore distribution system	540,000
NELHA Construct Groundwater Wells	312,000
NELHA Host Park Road and Utility Distrib. System	400,000
NELHA Kona International Airport Connector	4,000,000
North Kohala Community Resource Center	500,000
Paauilo Rendering Plant	1,186,000
Pahoa High and Intermediate new gymnasium	3,750,000
Queen Kaahumanu Highway widening	30,000,000
Saddle Road extension	3,000,000
Saddle Road improvements	8,000,000
Traffic operational improvements	1,100,000
Transitional Shelter for the Homeless	1,000,000
UHH Campus Center addition and renovation	2,900,000
UHH Science and Technology Building	5,000,000
UHM, Komohana Agricultural Complex renovation	500,000
Volcano Road widening, Keaau to Paahana	2,000,000
W.M. Keck Observatory Hualalai Learning Center	20,000
Waimea and Hilo baseyards improvements	75,000
Waimea-Kohala Airport, Part 139 improvements	4,100,000
Hilo Judiciary Complex	6,000,000

FISCAL YEAR 2007 TOTAL	205,008,000
-------------------------------	--------------------

Fiscal Year 2006	133,441,000
Fiscal Year 2007	205,008,000
DOE Lump Sums	26,840,000
DOE Repair & Maintenance	43,317,587

GRAND TOTAL	408,606,587
--------------------	--------------------

###